

10 August 1942

The Gaimusho  
Tokyo

Translation

T3/Ordinary, No. 366

/Stamp/

Swiss Legation Tokyo  
Foreign Interests  
Docs. EE 4.6.9.7.  
Rec. Aug. 12, 1942 Rep.

My dear Minister,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter (No. CC.1.2.1/EE-4.6.9.7.-ce-) dated 26 May, which, at the request of the American Government, inquires about the names of the prisoners of war and civilian internees transferred from Wake Island to other places, and their camps; and also about the Americans remaining on the island whether prisoners or not.

Regarding the prisoners of war, the Imperial Government has sent to Your Excellency a list of their names through the International Red Cross Committee, and thereby please be informed as to the conditions of those Americans taken prisoners of war on Wake Island.

Regarding the American civilian internees, we are ready to reply to every individual inquiry after the fullest possible investigations; therefore please arrange to convey our intention to the Government of America as you see fit.

I avail myself at this opportunity to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(L.S.) Minister of Foreign Affairs



Tokyo, January 21, 1942

EE.7.1.-ca.-

My dear Minister,

In compliance with the instructions of my Government and following previous communications on the subject of the application of the Geneva Conventions of 1929, I have the honor of sending to Your Excellency the following communication from the Government of the United States of America:

"1) The American Government has accepted the humanitarian proposal of the International Red Cross Committee made to it on December 10 1941 (which it is believed is identical with one made to the German Italian and Japanese Governments) setting up machinery for the exchange of lists of prisoners of war and of the wounded under article 79 of the Prisoners of War Convention of 1929. The American Government will also exchange lists of civilian internees in an analogous manner.

2) The American Government wishes to know if the Japanese Government is disposed to take similar action on the proposal of the International Red Cross Committee.

3) In accordance with article 77 of the Geneva Convention a Prisoners of War Bureau and in addition an Alien Enemy Information Bureau with like functions have been established by the United States War Department in the office of the Provost Marshal General. These Bureaus will be authorized to communicate lists of prisoners and civil internees direct to the International Red Cross Committee at Geneva and to representatives of the protecting powers. It is understood of course that the American Government's policy in this respect includes an expectation that the opposing belligerents will reciprocate.

4) The American Government has not yet received an expression of the intentions of the Japanese Government in regard to observance of the Geneva Conventions of 1929 including the application in the present conflict of the Prisoners of War Convention which it is understood Japan has not ratified and in regard to the extension of the provisions of the

latter Convention in so far as they are adaptable to any civilian enemy aliens who may be interned. It is recalled that the Swiss Government has already been requested to notify the Japanese Government of the American Government's intention to apply both Conventions as well as to apply the provisions of the Prisoners of War Convention to civilian internees in so far as adaptable."

I shall be happy to know the views of the Imperial Government on this subject and ask you to accept, my dear Minister, the assurances of my very high consideration.

The Swiss Minister.

To His Excellency  
Mr. Shigenori TOGO  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Tokyo

Certificate

I, George Buffington hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the French and English languages, and as a result of the comparison between the French and the English texts, I have established that this is a true and correct translation of International Prosecution Document No. 8443.

/s/ George W. Buffington